

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 23, 2004. Claims 1, 8, and 13-16 are pending in this application. Claims 2-7 and 9-12 have been canceled, and the subject matter of Claim 5 has been incorporated in substance into Claim 1; this action is taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 13-16 have been added to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection. Claim 1 is in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that Claim 5 includes allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim. Claim 5 has been canceled, and its allowable subject matter has been, in substance, incorporated into independent Claim 1. In particular, amended Claim 1 now includes the feature of the guide shaft in the general print height abutting against the adjustment member so that the position in height of the guide shaft is regulated. Applicants note that these features are discussed in the specification from page 51, line 14, to page 52, line 9. Consequently, Applicants submit that amended Claim 1 is now allowable. For this reason, Applicants will not discuss the prior art rejections stated in the Office Action.

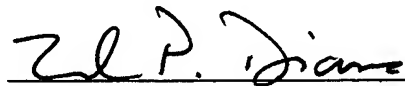
Claim 8 and newly added Claims 13-16 depend from Claim 1 discussed above, and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to Claim 8 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c), as being in improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim, stating that the claim does not include any structure. Claim 8 has now been amended to recite that the position in height of the guide shaft is set in accordance with information on the recording material in recording data. Applicants believe that the objection under Section 1.75(c) has been obviated, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and the allowance of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L. P. Diana", is written over a horizontal line.

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